## STATE OF MONTANA



## Governor's Proclamation



WHEREAS, all Montanans deserve the opportunity to pursue higher education, earn a postsecondary credential, and attain meaningful employment. Montana also needs a greater number of highly skilled workers to support our growing industries and communities; and

WHEREAS, studies have shown that college graduates enjoy higher incomes, better health, and greater levels of community involvement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Montana University System, in an effort to grow resident student access to postsecondary education, has created Apply Montana as a student access portal where all Montana residents can explore college opportunities and apply to college for free; and

WHEREAS, the Montana University System has partnered with all of Montana's Tribal Colleges and Private campuses to help Montana students in applying to college at no cost during the first two weeks of October; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Montana also recognizes that by completing the Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA), Montana students can access federal resources to help them attend college; and

**WHEREAS,** October has been recognized by the Montana University System as the month to celebrate College Application Week and FAFSA Completion Month;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** Greg Gianforte, Governor of the State of Montana, do hereby proclaim October 2021 to be

## **COLLEGE ACCESS MONTH**

in Montana to support efforts to increase resident student access to postsecondary education.

GREG GIANFORTE

Governor